



**NIFA Veterinary Medicine
Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)**

National Institute of Food and Agriculture
US Department of Agriculture
OMB Information Collection
Approval No.: 0524-0046

Veterinarian Shortage Situation Nomination Form

To be completed by the State or Insular Area Animal Health Official

Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)

Nomination of Veterinarian Shortage Situations for the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP) Authorized Under the National Veterinary Medical Service Act (NVMSA)

Note: Please submit one separate nomination form for each position. See solicitation for number of nominations permitted for your state or insular area.

Location of Veterinary Shortage Area for this Nomination

Note: If this nomination is for a public practice position, please provide the location of the home office or the center of service area.

Location of Veterinary Shortage: McHenry County, North Dakota

(e.g., County, State/Insular Area)

Center of Service Area or
Location of Position: Towner, North Dakota

(e.g., Address or Cross Street, Town/City, and Zip Code)

Type of Veterinary Practice Area/Discipline/Specialty

☐ Type I Shortage: Private Practice

Food Animal Medicine (at least 80 percent time)

Please select **one or more** specialties requested for this position:

☐

Beef Cattle

☐

Dairy Cattle

☐

Swine

☐

Poultry

☐

Small Ruminant

☐

Other :

☒ Type II Shortage: Private Practice – Rural Area

Food Animal Medicine (at least 30 percent time)

Please select **one or more** specialties requested for this position:

☒

Beef Cattle

☒

Dairy Cattle

☒

Swine

☐

Poultry

☐

Small Ruminant

☐

Other :

☐ Type III Shortage: Public Practice (at least 49 percent time*)

Employer: Position Title:

Please select **one or more** specialty/disciplinary areas.

☐

Food Safety

☐

Public Health

☐

Epidemiology

☐

Other:

Please describe the objectives of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation as well as being located in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).

The Towner area has several small to medium scale dairies along with beef cattle and horse production. North of Towner, there are small swine productions on existing farms. At this time, the ranchers and people of the Towner area have to either rely on a part-time veterinarian who works from his vehicle or take their animals to Minot (40 miles) or Rugby, where they have limited services. The Towner area has been known as the cattle capitol of North Dakota because of the amount of beef production in a 50 mile radius. The dairy industry has also put a strain on the existing veterinarian services and additional support would benefit the area for keeping and recruiting additional cattle/dairy operations.

Please describe the activities of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation and being located in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).

As of January, 2008, McHenry County has 77,000 cattle with 36,000 beef, 1,400 dairy, 4,000 sheep and 1,300 swine. There are no veterinarians that have an established office in the county or near Towner, ND. There are former veterinarian facilities that are available for purchase and the community is willing to work with a potential professional. This person would be able to also service the growing need for equine health. The requested position would focus on large animal as a mobile "Pet Vet" travels through the county and meet those needs.

Please describe any past efforts to recruit and retain a veterinarian in the shortage situation identified above (limit your response to 100 words or less).

The community and county have worked with previous Towner area graduates that are pursuing their education in veterinary science. At this time, there are no students pursuing veterinary science. They have also worked with the Minot area veterinarians and Bottineau veterinarians, but these professionals have expressed their workload is at capacity and do not have the need to work in rural areas. The community and county are willing to assist in terms of financial and businesses resources.

Please describe the risk of this veterinarian position not being secured or retained. Include the risk(s) to the production of a safe and wholesome food supply and to animal, human, and environmental health not only in the community but in the region, state/insular area, nation, and/or international community (limit your response to 250 words or less).

The risks associated with a veterinarian position not be secured is multi-fold. First, animal health is jeopardized by having to travel several miles no matter the condition. In addition, if a veterinarian is available to come to the location of the animal, that time is extensive also because of the travel. Second, the risk is in economic terms both for the animal producer and for the community/county. The producer risks death or loss of production with the animal traveling or amount of time to receive treatment. The economic loss also occurs to the community and county because the producer has to leave to receive services, thus transferring his dollars to another area. Third, the risk is in the animal not receiving treatment because of the costs of travel and time. In a severe cases, this treatment could transfer to other animals in his herd, neighboring herds and expand the health risk to the general public if not caught early. The Towner area and McHenry County has a variety of food production units, including dairies. The producers do their best to maintain a safe and healthy environment, but without a veterinarian near and checking on the herds health frequently, a minor risk could expand quickly.

Please indicate whether you consider this situation/position a candidate for a "service in emergency" agreement (limit your response to 100 words or less). Please see solicitations for additional information regarding the obligation of participants who enter into the "Service in Emergency" agreement. [LEAVE BLANK – NOT FOR IMPLEMENTATION IN 2010]

Authorized State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or designee:

Name: Susan J. Keller, DVM
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Susan J. Keller, DVM

Type Name

March 8, 2010

Date

Public reporting for OMB control number 0524-0046 is estimated to average two hours, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information, unless it displays a current valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to NIFA, OEP, 800 9th St. SW, Washington, DC 20024, Attention Policy Section. Do not return the completed form to this address.